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POLIOMYELITIS (INFANTILE PARALYSIS).

Buffalo.—During the week ended October 12 only 10 cases of poliomyelitis were reported in Buffalo. This brings the total number of cases reported during the present outbreak up to 326. Of this number, however, only 288 have been satisfactorily verified as being genuine cases of poliomyelitis. Among these cases there have been 35 deaths, making a case fatality rate of 12 per hundred. Cases have also been reported from the following counties in western New York: Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming, and Allegany.

SANITATION OF TRAINS AND VESSELS.

OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE TO NOTE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF TRAINS, VESSELS, STATIONS, AND WHARVES.

With the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service has issued instructions to commissioned medical officers to make note when traveling of the sanitary conditions of trains, vessels, stations, and wharves and to report the results of their observations. The purpose of this action is to enable the Surgeon General to ascertain existing sanitary conditions of common carriers engaged in interstate traffic. The circular of instruction follows:

INSPECTION OF SANITARY FEATURES IN OPERATION OF RAILROAD TRAINS IN INTERSTATE COMMERCE.

1912.
Department Circular No. 49.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
BUREAU OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE,
Washington, October 5, 1912.

To commissioned medical officers, Public Health Service:

Hereafter all commissioned medical officers of the Public Health Service, when traveling under official orders on trains and vessels engaged in interstate traffic, will make such observations as may be practicable of the sanitary conditions of the trains and vessels on which they travel and the stations and wharves at which they stop. The results of these observations will be noted in a report to be submitted to the Bureau upon completion of the travel authorized. This letter does not authorize officers to conduct formal inspections or to give instructions or offer advice to employees of common carriers. The making of the observations mentioned is desired solely for the information of the Bureau and for the compilation of facts relative to the sanitary conditions prevailing in interstate traffic.

RUPERT BLUE, *Surgeon General.*

Approved:
FRANKLIN MACVEAGH,
Secretary of the Treasury.